Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application. Please amend the claims as follows:

Listing of Claims:

1.   (Currently Amended) A method <u>for determining a geographic location for a network user,</u> comprising:

receiving a plurality of mapping requests <u>requesting a defined geographic location</u> from a plurality of <u>other</u> network users identified by a plurality of <u>associated</u> network addresses;

<u>associating a defined geographic location, in a mapping request, with the associated network address for each of the plurality of mapping requests;</u>

<u>receiving a request for a geographic location for the network user having a network address;</u>

<u>determining an associated network address that is similar to the network address; and</u>

~~deriving a geographic location of a~~ <u>providing the defined geographic location associated with the similar network address as the geographic location for the</u> network user ~~associated with a network address based on the plurality of network addresses and the plurality of mapping requests~~.

2.   Cancelled

3.   (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~2~~ <u>3</u> further comprising:

communicating geographically relevant information based on the geographic location.

4.   (Original)   The method of claim 1 wherein the network user is identified by an Internet Protocol (IP) address.

5.   (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein ~~deriving~~ <u>associating</u> the <u>defined</u> geographic location comprises:

assigning a first set of network addresses to a first defined geographic region based on the predominance of the plurality of network addresses that issued mapping requests included in the defined geographic region.

6.   (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein ~~deriving~~ associating the defined geographic location comprises:

grouping those mapping requests sharing a common portion of the network address.

7.   (Original)   The method of claim 1 wherein ~~deriving~~ providing comprises;

determining a confidence factor for the geographic location.

8.   (Original)   The method of claim 1 further comprising:

communicating geographically relevant information based on the geographic location.

9.   (Currently Amended) A method for determining a geographic location for an Internet user, comprising:

receiving a plurality of mapping requests requesting a defined geographic location from a plurality of other Internet users identified by a plurality of associated Internet Protocol (IP) addresses;

associating a defined geographic location, in a mapping request, with the associated IP addresses for each of the plurality of mapping requests;

receiving a request for a geographic location for the IP user having a IP address;

determining an associated IP address that is similar to the IP address; and

providing the defined geographic location associated with the similar IP address as the geographic location for the IP user.

~~analyzing a correspondence between IP addresses and mapping requests to determine geographic locations of the Internet users.~~

10.   Cancelled

11.   (Currently Amended) The method of claim 9 wherein associating ~~analyzing~~ comprises;

assigning a grouping of IP addresses to defined geographic regions based on the predominance of the plurality of IP addresses that issued mapping requests included in the defined geographic region.

12.   (Original)   The method of claim 11 wherein the grouping of IP addresses comprises those mapping requests that share a common portion of a corresponding IP address.

13.   (Original)   The method of claim 12 wherein the common portion comprises the first three bytes of an IP address.

14.   (Currently Amended) A machine readable medium having instructions stored thereon which when executed by a processor cause the processor to perform operations <u>for determining a geographic location for a network user,</u> comprising:

receiving a plurality of mapping requests <u>requesting a defined geographic location</u> from a plurality of <u>other</u> network users identified by a plurality of <u>associated</u> network addresses;

<u>associating a defined geographic location, in a mapping request, with the associated network address for each of the plurality of mapping requests;</u>

<u>receiving a request for a geographic location for the network user having a network address;</u>

<u>determining an associated network address that is similar to the network address; and</u>

~~deriving a geographic location of a~~ <u>providing the defined geographic location associated with the similar network address as the geographic location for the</u> network user ~~associated with a network address based on the plurality of network addresses and the plurality of mapping requests~~.

15.   Cancelled

16.   (Original)   The machine readable medium of claim 15 having further instructions thereon which cause the processor to perform further operations comprising:

communicating geographically relevant information based on the geographic location.

17.   (Original)   The machine readable medium of claim 15 having further instructions thereon which cause the processor to perform further operations comprising:

determining a confidence factor for the geographic location.

18.   (Currently Amended) A system comprising:

means for receiving a plurality of mapping requests requesting a defined geographic location from a plurality of other network users identified by a plurality of associated network addresses;

means for associating a defined geographic location, in a mapping request, with the associated network address for each of the plurality of mapping requests;

means for receiving a request for a geographic location for the network user having a network address;

means for determining an associated network address that is similar to the network address; and

means for providing the defined geographic location associated with the similar network address as the geographic location for the network user

~~means for deriving a geographic location of a network user associated with a network address based on the plurality of network addresses and the plurality of mapping requests~~.

19.   (Currently Amended) The system of claim 18 further comprising:

means for receiving a request to provide a geographic location of a specified network user;

~~means for providing the geographic location of the specified network user~~.

20.   (Original)   The system of claim 18 further comprising:

means for communicating geographically relevant information based on the geographic location.

21.   (Currently Amended) The system of claim ~~17~~18 further comprising:

means for determining a confidence factor for the geographic location.